

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00156 140736Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /032 W

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R 140610Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1832

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN MU

SUBJECT: SULTAN'S MARRIAGE

REF: 75 MUSCAT 1333

1. CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY TO SULTAN

QABOOS WERE DELIVERED ON RECEIPT SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. THERE REMAINS QUESTION OF POSSIBLE WEDDING GIFT.

2. NOTHING HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED ABOUT PROPOSED DATE OF ACTUAL MARRIAGE. SPECULATION, WHICH MAY NOT BE WELL INFORMED, IS THAT IT WILL OCCUR SOMETIME BETWEEN NOW AND EARLY APRIL. THERE MAY BE LITTLE OR NO ADVANCE NOTICE, BUT SIMPLY AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WEDDING HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THAT BRIEF PERIOD OF PUBLIC CELEBRATION SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT ONCE.

3. IN EMBASSY JUDGMENT A WEDDING GIFT FROM THE PRESIDENT IS CALLED FOR. WE THINK THIS CAN APPROPRIATELY BE SOMETHING WITH MAINLY SYMBOLIC VALUE, AND DECORATIVE RATHER THAN FUNCTIONAL. SOMETHING IN REALM OF AMERICAN ART SHOULD BE MOST SUITABLE, SUCH AS A HANDSOME PIECE OF STEUBEN GLASS OR SIMILAR ART OBJECT FOR DISPLAY.

4. TIMING OF PRESENTATION MAY SUITABLY TAKE PLACE AFTER THE WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT OBVIOUSLY THE SOONER AFTERWARDS THE BETTER.

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5. FYI, AS SEPARATE MATTER, AMBASSADOR ALONG WITH ALL

ELEVEN OTHER FOREIGN AMBASSADORS CURRENTLY RESIDENT IN
MUSCAT IS CONTRIBUTING TOWARD ENGRAVED SILVER TRAY AS
PERSONAL WEDDING GIFT TO HM FROM MUSCAT CHIEFS OF MISSION.
IT IS BEING ORDERED FROM LONDON FOR DELIVERY IN MONTH OR SO.

6. REQUEST WASHINGTON VIEWS ON PARA 3 ABOVE.
WOLLE

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